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Application No.: 10/722,465
Reply to Office Action of March 21, 2008

Attorney Docket No. 0465-1100P
Art Unit 1792

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A washing machine having a top plate with an opening therein, comprising:

a tub for holding laundry, water and detergent;

a detergent storing assembly located in the top plate opening for storing the detergent and providing the detergent to the tub on washing, the detergent storing assembly including a detergent box provided for storing the detergent, and a lid part fixed to a topside of the detergent box for opening/closing the detergent box;

a cabinet having the tub installed inside thereof wherein the detergent storing assembly is loaded on a loading hole formed at one side of the cabinet; and

a packing means sealing a gap between the lid part and the top plate to prevent external water from flowing in the cabinet,

wherein the lid part comprises an insertion groove to which the packing means is fitted and a plurality of inclined protrusions are formed ~~on an inside of the insertion groove to have packing means slide to be inserted thereon~~ a side surface of the insertion groove and are protruded toward the inside of the insertion groove to allow the packing means to be slidably inserted and supported therein.

2. (Canceled)

Application No.: 10/722,465
Reply to Office Action of March 21, 2008

Attorney Docket No. 0465-1100P
Art Unit 1792

3. (Previously Presented) The washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lid part further comprises:

a lid frame fixed to the detergent box and having an opening at a center to permit the detergent in the detergent box; and

a revolvable lid installed at one side of the lid frame to open/close the topside of the detergent box.

4. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 3, wherein a bottom of the lid frame is mounted on a periphery of the loading hole.

5. (Previously Presented) The washing machine as claimed in claim 4, wherein the packing means is provided between the bottom of the lid frame and a rim of the loading hole.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the insertion groove is formed at the bottom of the lid frame except a portion to which the lid is connected.

8. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 7, wherein the packing means comprises a gasket fitted to the insertion groove, a gasket partially protruding therefrom.

Application No.: 10/722,465
Reply to Office Action of March 21, 2008

Attorney Docket No. 0465-1100P
Art Unit 1792

9. (Previously Presented) The washing machines as claimed in claim 8, wherein the gasket comprises:

- a first gasket inserted in a front portion of the insertion groove of the lid frame; and
- a second gasket inserted in a rear portion of the insertion groove of the lid frame.

10-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A washing machine having a top plate with an opening therein, comprising:

- a tub for holding laundry, water and detergent;
- a detergent storing assembly located in the top plate opening for storing the detergent and providing the detergent to the tub on washing, the detergent storing assembly including a detergent box provided for storing the detergent, and a lid part fixed to a topside of the detergent box for opening/closing the detergent box;
- a cabinet having the tub installed inside thereof wherein the detergent box is positioned within a loading hole formed at one side of the cabinet and the lid part is mounted on a rim of the loading hole; and
- a packing means located on a bottom surface of the lid part and sealing a gap between the lid part and the top plate to prevent external water from flowing in the cabinet,
wherein the lid part comprises an insertion groove to which the packing means is fitted and

Application No.: 10/722,465
Reply to Office Action of March 21, 2008

Attorney Docket No. 0465-1100P
Art Unit 1792

a plurality of inclined protrusions are formed on a side surface of the insertion groove and are protruded toward the inside of the insertion groove to allow the packing means to be slidably inserted and supported therein.